

APPROPRIATION FOR BLANK CARTRIDGES FOR MILITIA.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE RECOMMENDING AN
APPROPRIATION FOR BLANK CARTRIDGES FOR MILITIA.

JANUARY 21, 1904.—Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs and ordered to be printed.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 19, 1904.

SIR: I have the honor to invite your attention to the inclosed letter of the Chief of Ordnance, United States Army, dated January 12, 1904, and to request that in the estimates submitted for the support of the Army for the fiscal year 1905, the language of the estimate of \$825,266, printed on page 163 of the Book of Estimates for the fiscal year 1905, be amended by inserting therein, in the proper section, the following clause:

and for blank cartridges for issue to the militia when participating with the Army in in field maneuvers.

It is also requested that the same clause be added to the supplemental estimate of \$400,000 for small arms ammunition forwarded to the honorable the Secretary of the Treasury under date of January 12, 1904, for transmission to Congress.

These amendments are desired for the purpose of furnishing blank ammunition to such of the militia of the several States and Territories as may participate with the Regular Army in field maneuvers.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT, *Secretary of War.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE,
Washington, January 12, 1904.

SIR: Referring to the memorandum dated December 26, 1903, in regard to the question as to whether or not section 21 of the militia act of January 21, 1903, covers blank ammunition furnished the militia for the purpose of instruction in firing, at the autumn maneuvers, I have the honor to recommend that Congress be requested to amend the estimate submitted for the support of the Army for 1905, so as to provide that the estimate of \$825,266 "For the manufacture and purchase of metallic ammunition for small arms for current needs and reserve supply, and ammunition for reloading cartridges, * * *" may be made available for furnishing blank ammunition to such of the militia as may participate with the Regular Army in field maneuvers, by inserting in the proper section the following clause, namely:

and for blank cartridges for issue to the militia when participating with the Army in field maneuvers.

It is recommended that the same clause be added also to the special estimate of \$400,000 for small-arms ammunition submitted to you for transmission to Congress on January 8, 1904.

As the total of the above estimates, namely, \$1,225,266, will provide a sufficient number of cartridges for furnishing blank ammunition to the militia for this purpose no additional sum is estimated for.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM CROZIER,
Brigadier-General, Chief of Ordnance.

The SECRETARY OF WAR.
(Through the Chief of Staff, United States Army.)

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